



Department Updates

Barron County

March / April 2012

County Clerk

DeeAnn Cook County Clerk

Special thanks for their years of service and dedication goes out to departing board members Al Nyhagen, Paul Streif, Pete Olson, Keith Hardie, Ken Peterson, Walt Organ, Jim Stavran and Jim Pannier. Welcome to new board members Stacy Neuman, Bill Schradle, Ron Fladten, Jim Reul, Louie Okey, Russell Rindsig, Burnell Hanson and Stanley Buchanan. Congratulations to the rest of you on your re-election.

The April 3, 2012 Spring Election went smoothly and the Municipal Clerks and Poll Workers did their usual

good job. Special thanks to Vonnie Ritchie, Jeff and Pam French, Rachael Richie and Julie Henningsen who volunteer their time and come in to help Jessica and I take in election results. Due to the number of contests on the ballot, the results started coming in a little later than usual but all within a reasonable time. Counties have been requested to enter election results directly into GAB's reporting system so we used that data to post results to our website as they came in on Election Night. We were very dissatisfied with how difficult and cumbersome the results were to read on our website so the next day we went to work looking for a way to improve the process. Huge thanks goes out to

Jeff Sirek from our Technology Department for working with Deputy Jessica Hodek and myself to come up with a much improved way to report results on our Barron County website using the data we enter into the GAB Reporting System.

We will be very busy preparing for the Recall Election which is now scheduled for May 8, 2012. If more than one candidate files, the May 8 will become a primary, which is very likely to happen. The Recall Election will then be held on June 5, 2012. The fall Partisan Primary is set for August 14 and the General Election is set for November 6.

Inside this issue:

ADRC / Aging	2
UW Extension	2
Human Resources	3
Clerk of Courts	3

Welcome New Board Members!



Aging & Disability Resource Center / Office on Aging

Charlene Oftedahl Director

County Board Supervisors are welcome to join us in thanking volunteers who “make a difference” in people’s lives, as well as in the quality and efficiency of our programs. Invitations are going out to over 500 volunteers who contribute time and skills to serve older adults and adults with disabilities in programs offered through the Office on Aging, Volunteer Services of Barron County, Inc., and the Circuit Court’s Volunteer Guardian Program. The Volunteer Recognition Dinner will be prepared and served by students and families of the St. Joseph Home and School in Rice Lake at 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 26. The Cumberland High School Chamber Choir will entertain. Call Terri Mikyska in the Office on Aging at 537-6227 to make a meal reservation.

The 9th Annual 50+ Challenge To Live Well is on Sunday afternoon, April 22, at Cedar Mall in Rice Lake. This event is sponsored by the Office on Aging/ADRC, Lakeview Medical Center, Marshfield Clinic, UW-Barron County Campus, Security Health Plan, Brent-

wood Senior Communities, and the Barron County Senior Review. Last year over 300 people attended. The events offers free health screenings, information booths, demonstrations, entertainment, speakers, and prize drawings.

Persons with low vision have been asked to attend a meeting on April 12 at 2 pm or 6 pm to help us organize an on-going monthly gathering for discussion and sharing of experiences and information on community resources. A Rehabilitation Specialist from the State Office for the Blind and Visually Impaired and three volunteers have offered to facilitate these meetings.

Volunteer Services of Barron County, Inc., will be holding a silent auction fundraiser at the annual Spaghetti Dinner of the Golden Kiwanis of Rice Lake on Thursday, April 12. Volunteer Services will also be part of the live auction held on Friday, May 18, by the Men’s Ecumenical Group at the First United Methodist Church in Barron. You can support two valuable community organizations at each event. Volunteer Services partners with the Office on Aging in providing rides to medical ap-

pointments within 125 miles of Barron County for elderly and persons with disabilities. They also have a Friendly Visitor Program and a Ramp Building Program. Call Vicky Ondell at 236-2184 to volunteer or request help.

“Stepping On” evidence-based workshop series designed to prevent falls will start on April 4th in the Government Center. Persons who have fallen or have a fear of falling are encouraged to attend all seven, two hour classes. Transportation will be arranged. EMTs are called out almost every day somewhere in Barron County to help people who have fallen. The Medical Examiner reported that over 70% of deaths related to injury in Barron County can be attributed to falls....more than motor vehicle accidents. Another evidence-based workshop series “Living Well with Chronic Conditions” will begin on April 10 at the Cumberland Senior Center. This series of six classes is highly participative, where mutual support and success build confidence to manage health and maintain an active, fulfilling life. For more information, call Trisha Bailkey at 537-6225.

UW Extension

Michelle Webb Nutrition Education Coordinator

Our nutrition education program has had a very busy year working with youth during in-school programming in nine schools throughout Barron County. Education with youth makes up about 75% of our programming efforts and with the concerning childhood obesity rates in our country, there is indeed a great need to help these youth make healthier choices when it comes nutrition and physical activity. As the school year winds down, we already have had over 2,000 educational contacts with youth ages 6-11 and over 700 educational contacts with youth ages 12-17.

Some programming highlights from our in-school educational programs include;

- 1st grade parents report that their children were more willing to try new foods and were eating more fruits and vegetables after nutrition education in their classrooms
- 3rd grade students did a vegetable taste test. Many students tried jicama, snap peas, and red bell pepper for the first time. The majority of students stated that they would like to have these vegetables again.
- 5th grade students were challenged to eat healthier snack for a week. Normal snack choices of cookies, ice cream, chips, and soda turned into healthy snacks of apples, carrots, crackers, yogurt, and milk.
- 7th and 8th grade students analyzed

their own eating habits when it comes to portion sizes. Students realized that they were eating large portions of meats, grains, and sweets, and not enough fruits, vegetables, and dairy. Students were challenged to make half their plate fruits and vegetables.

The Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program in a federally funded program that helps limited resource families and individuals choose healthful diets, purchase and prepare healthful food and handle it safely, and become more food secure by spending their food dollars wisely.

Human Resources

Rachael Richie, HR Director

<u>New/Replacement Positions</u>				
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Office/Department</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Date Filled</u>	<u>New/Replacement</u>
Patrol Deputy	Sheriff	Ryan Hulback	3/3/12	Replacement
Social Worker	Health & Human Services	Marcia Roberts-Seboe	3/19/12	Replacement
PT Civilian Communication Officer	Sheriff	Joyanna Helbig	3/23/12	Replacement
Social Worker	Health & Human Services	Joe Stearns	4/30/12	Replacement
Building Control / Maintenance Technician	Maintenance	Ryan Wilder	4/23/12	Replacement

- Four seasonal highway employees will be returning for the 2012 season on 4/2/12 (Steve Chermack, Louis Herman, Terry Wooldridge and Tony Posta).
- Throughout the next year, the county will be offering department presentations for interested employees or board members to attend to increase awareness of the many county provided programs and services. Contact Wendy Coleman for future presentation dates / times.

March - UW Extension & Medical Examiner

April - HHS

May - ADRC / Aging & Veterans Services

June - Sheriff

July - Child Support & Corporation Counsel

August - Courts, Clerk of Courts & District Attorney

September - Finance / Administration / HR

October - Maintenance

November - County Clerk, Register of Deeds & Treasurer

December - Land Services

January 2013 - Technology

February 2013 - Highway

Clerk of Courts

Sharon Millermon
Clerk of Courts

Effective 11-01-2011, Wisconsin became the 49th State to allow concealed carry of weapons. Applicants, unless an emergency, apply through the Department of Justice at www.doj.state.wi.us. Barron County Circuit Court will only process three different case types: 1.) emergency petitions; 2.) permission to carry in Courthouse; and 3.) appeal of denial of license. To date, Barron County has not processed any of the above. However, since the implementation of this law, the Clerk of Court Office must always be aware of critical

data entered being successfully electronically transferred to the Department of Justice for their determination of a petition/license being granted or denied. If data is determined not to have been sent electronically, it must be followed up with a fax.

Statewide statistics as of February 27, 2012:

- 92,000 applications have been received which results in approximately 3,000 per week.
- 80,000 licenses have been issued.
- Applications must be processed within 21 days.

- 13,000 applications have been denied.
- Most common reasons for denial are improper proof of training and incompletely or incorrectly filling out application.